



## Paul Joseph Gerard Dunn

April 18, 2023

Paul Joseph Gerard Dunn, 64, passed away unexpectedly on April 18, 2023. Although his passing leaves an unfillable void for his beloved family, Paul left them with a lifetime of happy memories that they will forever cherish.

Born in 1958 in Providence, Paul was the youngest son of the late Donald John and Mary Frances (Keefe) Dunn. He graduated from Mount Pleasant High School, where he was a star center on the ice hockey team. Although Paul was stubbornly humble about his own accomplishments, his sons were later able to piece together through other sources that their dad could skate like the wind and pass the puck with the best of them.

In addition to his lifelong love of hockey, Paul was an avid outdoorsman. He could often be found skating on the pond in the winter months, and, when the ice melted, gliding smoothly across the water in a rowboat or canoe. Paul was at peace in nature. He also found great joy riding motorcycles, especially enduro motorcycles, which he raced throughout the woods of the Northeast.

Paul found his occupational calling by staying close to nature. For close to 40 years, Paul loved being a land surveyor. As he would often say, "A day in the field beats a day in the office." Through sizzling heat waves, pouring rain, bone-chilling cold, and countless tick bites and bee stings, Paul happily traversed the woods of Southern New England. When one of the ever-

changing fleet of Dunn family cars made its way virtually anywhere, Paul would often cheerfully say “Surveyed it!” as he drove his family past one of the hundreds of properties that he had surveyed.

As strong as they were, Paul’s passions for hockey and the outdoors could not compare to his unending love for his family: Paul’s single greatest joy in this world. In May 1985, he met the love of his life, Barbara Ann (Murphy) Dunn, at a tennis party at Rally Point Racquet Club in Greenville, Rhode Island. It was truly love at first sight, Paul would often tell his sons years later. Paul and Barbara enjoyed simply being in each other’s company, most especially when they were close by to the ocean. They were married in 1986, had their wedding reception at the Dutch Inn in Narragansett, and made frequent pilgrimages back to the ocean during their more than 36 years together as husband and wife. Paul and Barbara’s love and devotion to each other was overwhelming and unwavering. They set a perfect example for their sons of what a loving, committed partnership should look like.

Paul’s selfless commitment to family extended to his three sons: Joshua, Matthew, and Tyler. Paul and Barbara worked extremely hard and made great personal sacrifices so that their sons could enjoy a happy childhood. And enjoy it they did. All three sons inherited Paul’s passion for ice hockey, and Paul and Barbara happily shuttled their boys, year-round, to cold ice rinks throughout the state. If any of the boys had a hockey game, Paul and Barbara’s presence in the stands was absolutely guaranteed, and they could be easily spotted with Paul wearing one of his trademark hats (his “Indiana Jones” hat and his trapper hat with ear flaps were among his favorites). The same was true for any birthday party, family outing, cookout, or other gathering. Paul and Barbara were always, always there for their boys.

Paul was immensely proud of each one of his sons and the men they became. And he made sure they knew it. To his great joy (and with his gentle, but

persistent, encouragement), Paul's family grew to include three daughters-in-law and four grandchildren, all of whom he loved dearly. Although their time with Paul was short, his grandchildren will know how much he loved them when they look at any of the many pictures of their proud grandfather adoringly holding them.

Paul will be profoundly missed. But he will live on through the many cherished memories of him that so many hold dearly. He is survived by Barbara, his loving wife of 36 years; his sons and daughters-in-law, Joshua Dunn and Cassandra Feeney, Matthew and Lauren (Shea) Dunn, and Tyler and Dominique (DiNitto) Dunn; his grandchildren, Rory, Mila, Maeve, and Donald; his siblings, Mary (Dunn) Wass, John Dunn, and Thomas Dunn; his mother-in-law, Harriet "Ma Terry" (Gilbert) Murphy; his sisters-in-law, Mary (Murphy) Hitte and her husband Wayne; Kathy (Murphy) Theiss; and Patricia (Murphy) Schroth; as well as many nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be held on Tuesday, April 25, 2023 from 9:00-10:30 a.m. at the Winfield & Sons Funeral Home, 571 West Greenville Road, Scituate, RI. (His family was happy to discover during service preparation that Paul had, of course, "Surveyed it!" too.)

Mass of Christian Burial will be at 11:00 a.m. at St. Joseph Church, 144 Danielson Pike, Scituate, RI, followed by Burial in Acotes Hill Cemetery, 1049 Putnam Pike, Chepachet, RI.

If you wish to help celebrate Paul's life, in lieu of sending flowers, stop and admire them instead. Better yet, plant a tree in his memory so that there will always be woods for us to roam.

# Cemetery Details

## Acotes Hill Cemetery

1049 Putnam Pike  
Glocester , RI

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 25. 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

Winfield & Sons Funeral Home and Crematory  
571 West Greenville Road (Route 116)  
Scituate, RI 02857  
(401) 647-5421

## Mass of Christian Burial

APR 25. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Joseph Church  
144 Danielson Pike  
Scituate, RI 02857

# Tribute Wall

SW

“ Barbara, Josh, Matt & Tyler,  
I was shocked to read today that Paul passed away. I'm so sorry for your loss and missing the opportunity to pay my respects to all of you at his services. Paul was a great guy and I always enjoyed his company on and off the ice.  
Steve Winsor

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**Steve Winsor** - April 29, 2023 at 02:50 PM

MB

“ Back in the '70s and '80's I spent a great deal of time at the Dunn family's houses in Providence and Chepachet making music and hanging out with John and Tom. Paul was always around, but he wasn't the "pain" younger brother. He was the cool younger brother - as interested in what we were doing as we were in what he was doing. A great kid who became a great guy. Our sympathies to Barbara, John, Tom, Mary and the family. RIP Paul. Mederick & Carleen

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**Mederick Bellaire** - April 27, 2023 at 12:43 PM

GM

“ Paul was a valuable member of our Wednesday night hockey group. It was always a pleasure to see Paul walk into the locker room. We enjoyed the stories he had to tell. It was nice when his boys skated with him. He was certainly a very proud Dad!  
Paul will always be a member of our team and greatly missed.

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**Gordie Mountford** - April 24, 2023 at 07:10 PM

MM

“ I remember meeting Paul for the first time....some how we started talking about hockey.....my love for the Bruins and his.....that was it.....we always had something fun to talk about whenever I saw him with my cousin Barbara.....well...that and beer.

*Cheers to you and the smooth ice in heaven my friend.....I loved ya.*

*Dan*

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**Maurice Vincent Murphy** - April 24, 2023 at 03:59 PM

  
Lorraine  
Mc

“ Our deepest sympathy to your family our hearts are with you all

*Joel and Lorraine*

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**Lorraine Mc** - April 24, 2023 at 03:32 PM

NB

“ My deepest sympathy to All of the Dunn Family, Paul was a great man and always there to make us all smile and laugh. I am so happy to have had many wonderful moments shared at family gatherings. He will forever be in our thoughts and hearts. Rip Paul,  
*Love Naomi B*



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**Naomi Blankenship** - April 24, 2023 at 03:06 PM

CC

“ My deepest condolences to all of the family. Paul was such good guy. Always willing to help. I'll always remember how he Vin would banter back and forth when they got together especially over hockey.

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**Christine Cipressi** - April 24, 2023 at 01:01 PM

LK

“ *Sympathy for your loss of a beloved family member. Tom and Johnny so sorry for the loss of you brother. Linda and Jeff Kiser*

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**Linda Kiser** - April 24, 2023 at 10:52 AM

JG

“ *To Tyler, and the Dunn Family. My Coindoiences go out to you and your family on your loss. The Gianardi Family.*

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**Jay Gianardi** - April 23, 2023 at 05:02 PM



“ *Barbara, Josh, Matthew, Tyler, Mary, John, and Tom: My heart is broken. No matter how many years have gone by, you are still my family, and I am so sorry for your loss of Paul. He was a wonderful guy, talented, and like his dad a great hockey player. A quiet soul, and funny. I love all of you. Peggy Dunn*

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**Peggy Dunn** - April 23, 2023 at 11:03 AM

TG

“ *To Barbara and family, Paul will be sadly missed. He was one of the first people we met when we moved into the neighborhood. Always friendly, always willing to chat, share a story or lend a helping hand. We love you Paul, may you rest in peace and know that we will be keeping an eye on your Barbara...*

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**Tom and Sue Galligan** - April 22, 2023 at 06:30 PM

SF

“ To the entire DUNN FAMILY we are so sorry for the loss of you husband, dad, friend! Paul was a great man & teammate, having played with him at Mt Pleasant 4yrs & Burrville men’s league, he was also a great athlete. May the memories and good times be discussed around the dinner table . RIP PAUL DUNN. SEAN & CAROLYN FITZGERALD

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**SEAN & CAROLYN FITZGERALD** - April 22, 2023 at 04:19 PM

LA

“ Tyler, Dominique, and Family: Our deepest, deepest sympathy for the loss of your beloved father. It was amazing to read about his extraordinary life with his work, hockey, and family life. You will always be in our thoughts and prayers. Your dad will be greatly missed. Love Auntie Carol, Lisa, Deb, Mike, Josh, Giana, and Raevyn. 🙏❤️

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**Lisa Acciardo** - April 21, 2023 at 06:51 PM